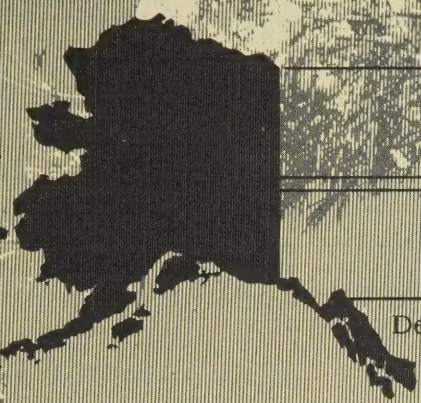


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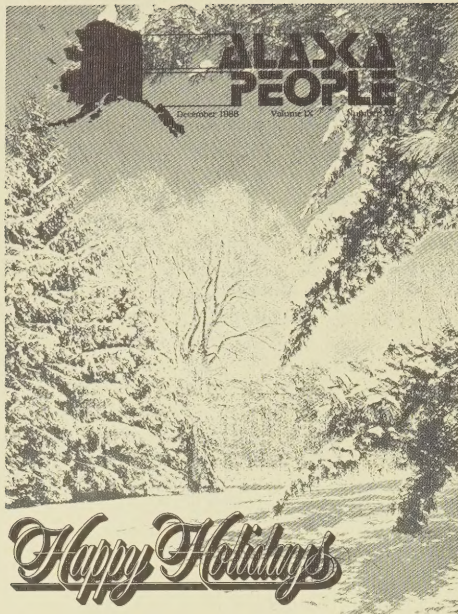
December 1988

Volume IX

Number XII



Happy Holidays



"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men!" Luke 2: 14



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BLM's Library Provides Resources from all over the World

by Linda Tobiska

The Alaska Resources Library offers BLM employees a wide range of services designed to help them meet their research and information needs. Among these services is the interlibrary loan.

The interlibrary loan service connects the Resources Library with other libraries throughout the world. Because not even a major university or research library could possibly hope to acquire and add to its collection everything that everyone of its researchers could ever want, a system of lending and borrowing among libraries has evolved.

This means that in addition to the 650 journal subscriptions and the 70,000 books and reports that are physically located in the Resources Library, you have access to the millions of books, reports, and journals found in participating libraries around the world.

The Library has online computer access to two major bibliographic databases showing the combined holdings of thousands of member libraries. When you want an item which is not owned by the Re-

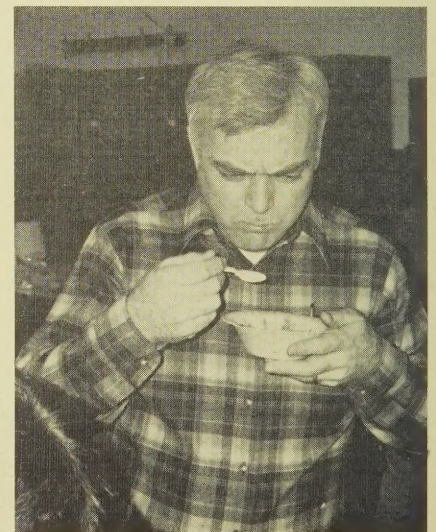
sources Library, the library staff will search these data bases for a participating library which does own the item and will arrange to borrow it for you.

To request a book or a journal article or any other printed information via interlibrary loan, simply fill out a short form for each item that you need. Rush requests may be phoned in. There is no limit to the number of items you may request. In general takes two to four four weeks for the requested material to arrive depending on how difficult it is for the librarian to locate a lending library and where that library is located.

When the item arrives, the librarian will forward it to you. Interlibrary loan is available to all Alaska BLM employees. If you live outside Anchorage, just send the request forms to the library and the item will be sent to you when it arrives.

The library staff encourages you to take advantage of their standing offer to bring the "world of information" to your doorstep. They will be happy to answer any questions you have about interlibrary loan.

Head chili tasting judge Bob Conquergood gives serious consideration to a chili sample at the November 12 Chili Feed. BLMers brought their best chili to the annual competition. SD Mike Penfold bought the beverages and also won the top prize for the best chili. (photo by Dave Vickery)



Collaring Caribou in the White Mountains

by Sharon Durgan Wilson

Two major fires in the White Mountains National Recreation Area have given BLM and Alaska Department of Fish and Game wildlife biologists a chance to find out how the area's 1,000 caribou are affected.

Phase II of a detailed study of caribou in the White Mountains began in September with the collaring of 20 animals. The wildlife biologists will monitor the movements and habits of the herd over the next three years to see how the fires affect the health and production of the caribou. They will also monitor the herd size annually keeping close track of the caribou as they go about their seasonal cycle. Winston Hobgood, biologist in charge of the Steese/White Mountains District project, says the primary goal is to determine if the caribou change use areas or change the timing of their movements because of wildfire. Wildlife biologists will also be collecting data to determine if the fires will affect the food habits of the caribou and how well the burned vegetation will regenerate itself. Trends for herd size, rate of successful births, and death rate should emerge in three years.

The Livengood fire destroyed the lichen on about half of the herd's winter range in the White Mountains in 1988. The biologists will be observing the reactions of the



Wildlife biologist Winston Hobgood prepares to administer the antidote that will get the radio-collared caribou up on her feet. (photo by Jack Mellor)

caribou to the reduction of lichen habitat.

The 1987 O'Brien Creek fire burned part of their summer range. This too could affect the herd.

During the collaring venture, the radio signal picked up from a caribou calf collared the first day indicated he was in one spot and not

moving. When the team found him, he was hopelessly mired in the mud. The men pulled him out and sent him on his way. "He was still in good shape," Hobgood said, "But if we hadn't gotten him out, he would certainly have died. We felt the collaring had an unexpected benefit for him."

NWF Lawsuit "Settled," or is it ?

by Ed Bovy

Many BLM lands actions can now resume as a result of a U.S. District Court ruling on the National Wildlife Federation lawsuit. The court did not directly address the plaintiff's arguments but rather dismissed the case because the federation could not prove its members had actually been in-

jured by any BLM actions. Although the federation has appealed the decision, the injunction suspending certain BLM operations remains lifted as of this writing.

BLM is now in the process of determining the effects of this ruling on our Alaska programs.

"BLM will activate the 2,000 oil and gas leases that were already issued on the Seward Peninsula. I don't think that this will happen until at least January because we

have to work out procedures for determining how to give credit for the time the leases were under suspension," said Bob Merrill.

There are three additional 1008 study areas that can be opened for oil and gas leasing, settlement and mining, depending on the results of pending studies. "There are about 60 withdrawals that can now be processed, but it will take time to evaluate what specific steps need to be taken to finish the job," said Sandy Thomas.

Van Waggoner— BLM's Environmental Education Advocate

by Danielle Allen

If Van Waggoner could have it his way, he'd do nothing but represent BLM in teaching students and teachers about the environment and natural resources. But as a wildlife biologist for the Anchorage District, he must be satisfied with periodic forays into academia.

Just recently, Waggoner and ADO archaeologist Julie Steele helped teach a graduate environmental education course to Bayshore elementary school teachers. This course, like the others he's taught during the year, was sponsored by ACRE (Alaska Center for Resource Education).

Thirty-five daycare providers heard from Waggoner in November when he taught a three-day wildlife workshop. And he's already preparing for a similar workshop in January where he will present four different wildlife curricula to Mt. View Elementary School teachers.

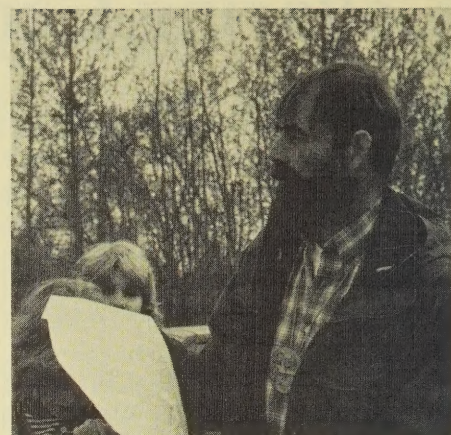
In October however, Waggoner took off his teacher's cap to play the role of student at the 4-H

Natural Resources Forum in Estes Park, Colorado.

The natural resources conference brought together 4-H leaders, volunteers, extension staff, and various government agency resource personnel from 41 states.

The AMOCO Foundation, Inc. and Waste Management, Inc. sponsored the conference which brought experts from across the country who taught subject matter tracts on wildlife and fisheries; range and pasture management; forestry and forest products; outdoor recreation; and soil conservation and water quality.

AMOCO's president Lawrie Thomas says, "It was an important step in helping to educate and prepare our young people to assume leadership roles in confronting some of the critical issues that



Van Waggoner

face our nation."

Waggoner says, "I was impressed, I haven't had many dealings with 4-H. They do more than raise pigs and cows. They knew a lot about the wise use of resources. I was also surprised to learn there is a lot of 4-H activity in non-rural areas.

As a result, Waggoner and the other Alaskan participants are planning to conduct a workshop this spring to teach volunteer and extension service agents what they learned. In turn these participants would set up natural resource programs. "Eventually the natural resource programs would expand statewide," says Waggoner.

Alaska BLM Celebrates Native Heritage Week



Dried fish, seal meat, herring eggs and fried Eskimo bread were just some of the culinary delights that BLMers could sample during a food fair at last month's observance of Native Heritage Week. Also included in the week's festivities were a Native arts and crafts fair in the lobby of the Anchorage Federal Building and performances by the King Island dancers and the Greatland Dancers. Keynote speaker was Laura Wright, internationally-known for her clothing designs. Native Heritage Week is held every year to increase the public's awareness of the contributions of Native Americans to our culture. (photo by Ed Bovy)

Revenge of the Humpies

by Susan Mitchell

Cleaning rotting salmon carcasses from a wire mesh while standing in a cold river in the middle of the night is not a pleasant experience. Joe Webb knows.

He was in charge of a coho salmon counting project on the Shaktoolik River this summer.

Very little is known about salmon in the Shaktoolik River and BLM manages most of the suspected spawning areas on the river.

The Shaktoolik originates in the Nulato Hills about 170 miles east of Nome and drains into Norton Sound at the village of Shaktoolik. The river is a major spawning ground for chum salmon as well as coho, king and pink salmon and Dolly Varden. The upper part of

the watershed is BLM-managed land.

Webb set up a tower to count the coho salmon swimming upriver to spawn. Salmon would be guided by the wire mesh weir across a white panel on the bottom of the river where they could be seen by a person in the tower.

Webb chose to study coho because there is less information available about them and they are good sport fish. Volunteer Dave Parker, seasonal fisheries biologist Mitch Wagener and RAPS student Kourak Nakak helped with the project. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game contributed equipment.

"The project was not completely successful," Webb said. Thousands of pink salmon, also known as humpies, were spawning. Their carcasses clogged the weir. Mean-

while the river level was rising because of rain. Despite the crew's best effort the weir washed out after five days.

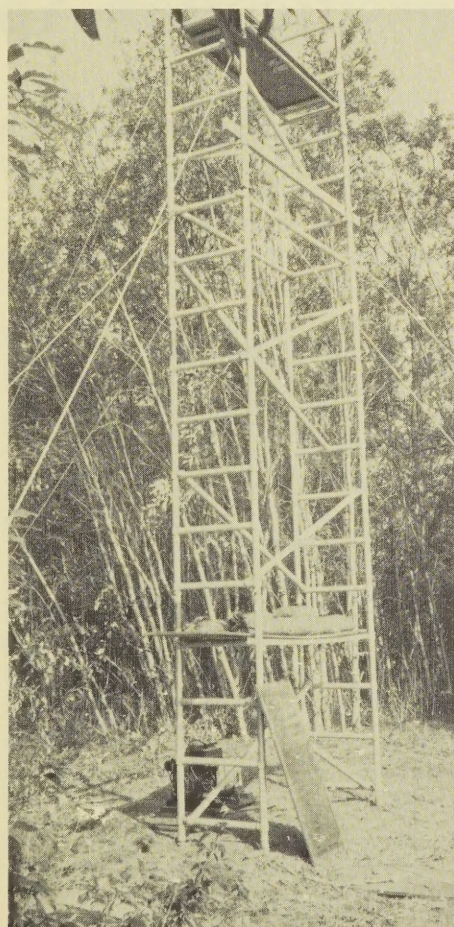
A second weir was built and counting began. Webb had originally planned to count fish six days a week for one month. However, the river rose again after eight days. Turbidity obscured the fish and high water made it impossible to wade across to clean the weir. The researchers removed the weir, fearing it would be destroyed again. They waited, but the water never went down enough to try again.

Despite the problems, Webb said he learned a lot from the project. Next year he plans to either build a more substantial weir or use two counting towers and no weir.

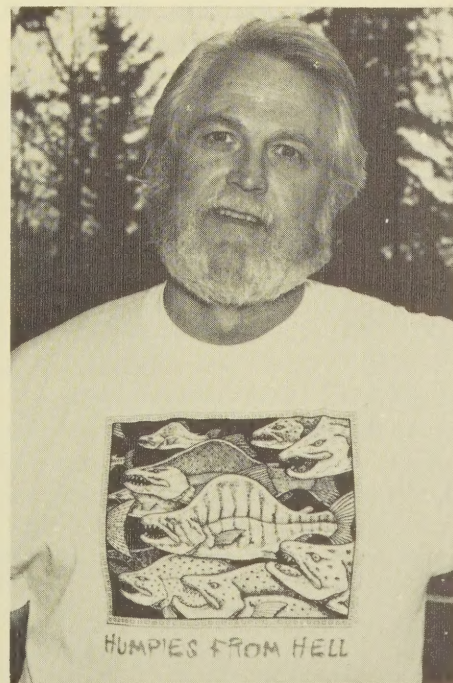
In addition to some good information, the project provided fodder for jokes about the revenge of the humpies. One of Webb's co-workers bought him a t-shirt that says "Humpies from Hell." Joe wears it proudly.



A white panel was placed across the river bottom to help see the salmon better.



The salmon counting tower.



Joe Webb displays his t-shirt.

Office Services

by Charlotte Hall

Need a desk moved? Got a problem with parking? Need a travel advance in a hurry? ASO's Office Services is there to help you.

Office Services includes the mail room, supply room, print shop and accounting. If you are at a loss as to who you need, just ask the Office Services receptionist for help or have the receptionist take you to our leader—Coco Lewis.

Important Office Services numbers to know:

Receptionist	(5049)
Accounting	(3195)
Imprest	(3194)
Travel	(3186)
Property	(5050)
Supply Room	(5746)
Print Shop	(5744)



Has it been that long? Original members of the Southern Alaska Advisory Council (formerly the Anchorage District Advisory Council) receive plaques for eight years of distinguished service from Anchorage District Manager Dick Vernimen and former Anchorage District Manager Dick Tindall. Leaving the Council are (left to right) Bob Arwezon, Dennis Bromley and Sally Suddock. (photo by Danielle Allen)

The Position Classification Appeal Procedure

Does your position description accurately reflect the kind of work that you perform? Are you dissatisfied with the classification of your position? Problems such as this should be brought to the attention of your supervisor. This allows you and your supervisor to talk about your position description and examine the accuracy and intent of the PD. You and your supervisor are responsible for ensuring that the position description accurately describes the duties and full range of responsibilities that are assigned to you.

If you feel that your grade level or title is not correct both you and your supervisor should contact the Branch of Human Resource Management and review the problem with the position classification specialist.

The classification specialist ensures that the PD accurately portrays the kind of work assigned to you and that your job is properly

classified. This is done by reviewing your position description with you and your supervisor and having you show the classifier examples of your work. How you receive your assignments, your level of delegated responsibility for carrying out assignments and how your supervisor reviews your work. The classifier also looks at the conditions that make your job difficult.

After the interview, the classification specialist compares your position description with position classification standards and prepares an evaluation report based on findings, grade level criteria and occupational information, that are described in the classification standards. The classification specialist then shares the evaluation report with you and your supervisor, and discusses any disagreements that you or your supervisor may have.

If you are not satisfied with the classification of your position you

may consider an appeal. Classification appeals require that the appellant speak only to the actual duties that are assigned. Employees have two levels of appeal available to them. They may appeal to either BLM headquarters, Chief, Division of Personnel and Training or to the Department of Interior, Director of Personnel or may bypass BLM and the Interior and appeal directly to the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) in Seattle, Washington.

Appeals should be submitted through the Alaska State Office, Branch of Human Resource Management (AK971) since additional information is needed by the adjudicative office such as classification evaluation reports, functional statements, organization charts, your supervisor's position description and your PIPR.

Any questions regarding classification appeals should be referred to Don Pino, (5741) or Connie Tefeteller (5507).

Anchorage area civilian and military federal employees contributed more than \$735,000 to this year's **Combined Federal Campaign**.

Xenia Hough Schillereff passed away November 23. Xenia worked as typesetter for BLM ASO Public Affairs until 1983 when she transferred to the Alaska Land Use Council as secretary to Paul Gates. Two years ago she left work on a disability retirement.

Xenia was always very cheerful and positive in spite of her many medical problems. She will be sincerely missed by all who knew and loved her.

Her family requests that donations be made to Providence House in lieu of flowers. Send donations to: "In memory of Xenia Hough Schillereff," Providence Health Care Foundation, 3200 Providence Dr., P.O. Box 196604, Anchorage, Alaska 99519-6604.

Markair recently gave ASO Division of Support Service's **Laura Andrewyuk** an airline ticket home to Mt. Village to accompany the body of her brother who died in a hit and run accident in Anchorage.

Workwise or Otherwise

Parents watch out for a new method of dealing drugs to children. Brightly colored paper tabs resembling postage stamps containing pictures of Superman, butterflies, clowns etc and stars or pyramid tattoos laced with LSD are being distributed to children. The stamps can be removed and placed in the mouth but the LSD can also be absorbed through the skin via a tattoo.

If you or your children see any of these stamps **DO NOT HANDLE!** These drugs are known to react very quickly and some are laced with strychnine. Call the police.

The General Management Evaluation Team completed their evaluation of Alaska BLM in early November.

"We received good cooperation from Alaska BLM employees," says Tom Allen, Assistant Director for Management Services. "They are interested in their work and are sincerely interested in how BLM does it's business here."

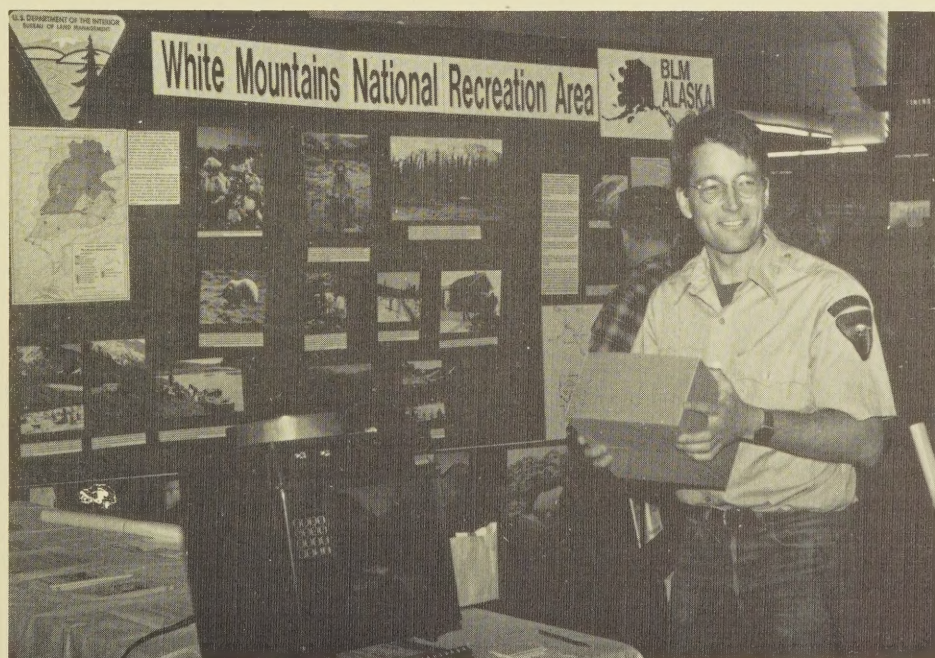
"After the report is final, it will be sent to the SD for his response" says Allen. "The SD will then prepare his plan for implementing the recommendations and submit his response and action plan to the Washington office for the Director to review and approve. Then it's up to the managers and employees to carry it out."

Fairbanks BLM had their State DNR next door neighbors over for coffee Nov. 9. BLMers provided guided tours to help DNR staff familiarize themselves with where everyone is located in the new building.

The Alaska Federation of Natives endorsed the continuation and expansion of the Resource Apprenticeship Program for Alaska Native Students at their 1988 Annual Convention in Fairbanks.

AND THE WINNER IS—Lon Kelly, outdoor recreation planner for the Steese/White Mountains District, prepares to draw two lucky winners for a free night's lodging at one of the BLM recreation cabins in the White Mountains National Recreation Area. Several hundred people browsed through the BLM photo display on the White Mountains area October 29-30 at the Adventure Fair, sponsored by the Fairbanks Convention and Visitors Center and the Alaska Division of Tourism.

The intent of the fair was to inform Fairbanksans of ways to entertain themselves and guests during the long northern winters. Most people who stopped at the booth had not heard about the White Mountains recreational opportunities, and the BLMers who worked over the weekend expect increased use of the area after the exposure.



Applause

On-the-Spot Cash Award

Mary Terese Bertini, Contract Specialist, ASO Division of Support Services

Kenneth Hext, Program Analyst, ASO Division of Resources

Joe Essert, Computer Specialist, ASO Division of Support Services

Lorraine Lee, Computer Programmer Analyst, ASO Division of Support Services

Donald Lofton, Computer Specialist, ASO Division of Support Services

Bonita Willer, Computer Program Analyst, ASO Division of Support Services

Jon Wilson, Computer Program Analyst, ASO Division of Support Services

Rosemary Cunningham, LIS Project Team, ASO Division of Support Services

Robert Caughey, Supervisory Computer Systems Analyst, ASO Division of Support Services

Sonya Juliussen, LIS Project Team, ASO Division of Support Services

Janet Sosnowski, Realty Specialist, ADO

Martin Hansen, Realty Specialist, ADO

Special Act Award

Barbara Harris, Accounting Technician, ASO Division of Support Services

Kevin Meyer, Natural Resource Specialist, ADO

William Hauser, Petroleum Engineer, ASO Office of Management, Planning, and Budget

Ronald Teseneer, Geologist, ASO Division of Mineral Resources

Lance Lockard, Land Law Examiner, ASO Division of Cadastral Survey

Sustained Superior Performance Award

Donna Koontz, Miscellaneous Documents Clerk, ASO Division of Conveyance Management

Charrie Jackson, Miscellaneous Documents Clerk, ASO Division of Conveyance Management

Linda Mowatt, Miscellaneous Documents Clerk, ASO Division of Conveyance Management

Rebecca Johnson, Lead Miscellaneous Documents Clerk, ASO Division of Conveyance Management

Carolyn Haynes, Editorial Assistant, ASO Division of Cadastral Survey

David Clark, Land Surveyor, ASO Division of Cadastral Survey

Sandra Dunn, Realty Specialist, ADO

Cheryl Wells, Clerk Typist, Glennallen District

James Pritchard, Land Surveyor, ASO Division of Cadastral Survey

Rena Baker, Land Law Examiner, ASO Division of Conveyance Management

Susan Lavin, Land Law Examiner, ASO Division of Resources

WELCOME ABOARD (November 1988)

Betty Adams, Legal Technician, ASO Division of Support Services

Donald Alexander, Clerk Typist, ADO

Jack Frost, Cartographic Technician, ASO Division of Support Services

Sonya Lyon, Librarian, ASO Division of Support Services

Janis Malymeik, Clerk Typist, ASO Division of Conveyance Management

Larry Woodward, Electronic Mechanic, AFS

Ella Wright, Technical Writer, ASO Division of Support Services

Judy Demming, Cartographic Technician, ASO Division of Support Services

Leslie Torrence, Cartographic Technician, ASO Division of Support Services

MOVING ON (November 1988)

Barbara Taylor, Secretary, AFS

Suzanne Velti, Mail and File Clerk, ASO Division of Support Services

David Vogler, Hydrologist, Steese/White Mountains District

William Hauser, Petroleum Engineer, ASO Division of Mineral Resources

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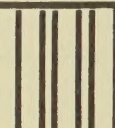
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